

**Title Page:**

STRATEGIC PLAN  
FOR TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PRESERVE  
OCTOBER 1, 2008 - SEPTEMBER 12, 2012



## Results Act and Planning Cycle:

### PREFACE

This five-year Strategic Plan has been written for one or more units of the greater National Park System administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The National Park System preserves outstanding representations of America's natural, cultural, and recreational resources of national significance. These resources constitute a significant part of America's heritage, character, and future. The National Park Service not only directly and indirectly preserves these national treasures; it also makes them available to millions of visitors from throughout the country and the world every year.

This Strategic Plan was written to fulfill the requirements of Section 104 of the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998. This legislation requires all field units of the National Park System prepare Strategic Plans and Annual Performance Plans consistent with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 and make these documents available to the public. The law was a catalyst for our staff to examine its fundamental mission and to take a fresh, longer range view, in precise terms, of what results or outcomes we needed to achieve to more effectively and efficiently accomplish that mission.

The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) is one of the most recent and comprehensive of a number of laws and executive orders directing federal agencies to join the "performance management revolution" already embraced by private industry and many local, state, and national governments. Performance management ensures that daily actions and expenditure of resources are guided by long- and short-term goal setting in pursuit of accomplishing an organization's primary mission, followed by performance measurement and evaluation. Importantly, GPRA mandates that long-term and annual goals be results or outcomes rather than outputs (activities, products, or services) and that they be "objective, quantifiable, and measurable" so that performance can be adequately measured and reported, and progress on mission accomplishment assessed.

GPRA requires federal agencies to develop and use three primary documents in conducting their business. These documents are also to be submitted to the Congress and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB):

1. Strategic Plan of no less than five years duration, reviewed and revised every three years, and containing:

- \* mission statement based in law, executive order, etc.;
- \* long-term goals, which are objective, quantified, and measurable, to accomplish mission;
- \* how goals will be accomplished, is the plan data and narrative showing "...operational processes, skills and technology, and the human, capital, information and other resources required to meet those goals...";
- \* relationship of annual goals to long term goals, a description of how long term goals are carried out in annual goal increments;
- \* key external factors which could positively or negatively affect goal accomplishment;
- \* GPRA also requires consultation with affected and interested parties in the development of the Strategic Plan, and it requires that the plan be
- \* developed by federal employees (versus contractors, etc.).

2. Annual Performance Plan tiered off the Strategic Plan each year, showing how long term goals will be accomplished in annual increments, and containing:

- \* annual goals to incrementally achieve long-term goals in Strategic Plan;
- \* annual work plan explaining how annual goals will be accomplished - "briefly describe the operational processes, skills and technology, and the human, capital, information and other resources required to meet the performance goals...." and
- \* basis for measuring results - "...provide a basis for comparing actual program results with the established performance goals...."

3. Annual Performance Report reviewing each year's successes and failures and identifying areas where activities or goals need to be revised in the future, addressing:

- \* what annual goals were met or exceeded;
- \* what annual goals were not met;
- \* why annual goals were not met; and
- \* what remedial action will be taken for goals not met.

## ABOUT THIS PLAN

In consultation with Congress, OMB and other interested parties, the National Park Service (NPS) developed its own GPRA implementation process. In 2004 the Department of the Interior (DOI) produced a Strategic Plan requiring all agencies in the Department to be aligned with. Individual park plans address the long-term goals in the DOI/NPS plan that are appropriate to the individual units as parts of the overall National Park System and its mission. Then they add goals specific to their own legislative mandates, missions, resources, visitor services, and issues. The park plans, then, are a blend of national and local priorities and goals.

This Strategic Plan follows that pattern. It contains a mission statement born out of the NPS organic act as well as the specific legislation or proclamation establishing the park. It contains long-term goals, which target in quantifiable, measurable ways what we will accomplish in the next four years toward achieving our overall mission goals and mission. The long-term goals address both appropriate "servicewide" goals as well as park-specific outcomes. The goal numbering protocol follows that of the NPS plan with park-specific suffixes. Since not all servicewide goals apply to every park, some numbers may be skipped. In addition, there are numbers containing 0's which are not in the servicewide plan and indicate park-specific goals.

Each long-term goal is repeated with one or more explanatory paragraphs that give background, detail, and other information useful to help the reader understand the goal as well as to sketch in how the goal will be accomplished. The figures in the tables and narrative for each goal contain any general information about "How Goals will be Accomplished", including staffing, fiscal, infrastructure, and other resources available to achieve the plan's long-term goals.

It should be noted that the goals in this plan are generally predicated on "flat budgets". Other than increases for inflation, we assumed no major increases in funding. Where increases in appropriations are known or are likely, they were taken into account. Where other funding sources (donations, fee revenues, etc.) are "reasonably assured", they too are taken into consideration when setting performance targets. Obviously, limits on funding constrain what can be accomplished toward our goals and mission. GPRA, however, is distinctly not about discussing budget shortfalls or requesting or justifying additional funding. Rather it is about planning, managing, and communicating what we can accomplish with the resources we already have while at the same, providing accountability for those resources.

Each year that the Strategic Plan is in effect, there will be a companion Annual Performance Plan which shows in annual goals, that year's targeted incremental achievement of each long-term goal, and a work plan for accomplishing that increment. Each year there will also be an Annual Performance Report discussing actual achievement of the prior year's annual goals and progress on long-term goals.

Copies of this Strategic Plan can be requested from the superintendent. Questions and comments are welcome and encouraged and can be addressed to the superintendent. Copies of the most current Annual Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report are also available on request, with questions and comments equally welcome.

## Park Background Information:

## About the Park

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is located in Chase County in east-central Kansas. Comprising 10,894 acres, the preserve contains an example of the tallgrass prairie ecosystem, cultural evidence of American Indians, and historic structures and features of the former Spring Hill/Z Bar Ranch. The preserve's administrative office is in Cottonwood Falls, approximately three miles south of the preserve's southern boundary. The operations office is located at the preserve in the historic ranch headquarters area on Kansas State Highway 177, Flint Hills National Scenic Byway, two miles north of U.S. Highway 50 and Strong City, Kansas.

The preserve was established by legislation on November 12, 1996 as part of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act (Public Law 104-333). This culminated more than 70 years of interest in, work towards, and opposition to the creation of a national prairie park. Under the legislation, the park service can only acquire up to 180 acres but will manage and operate the rest of the preserve under a cooperative arrangement with the private landowner, currently The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and originally the National Park Trust (NPT).

When the NPT purchased the property in 1994, the oil and gas development rights were retained in trust for 35 years. There has been gas production involving 25 wells that are currently inactive. In addition, a number of rights-of-way exist in the preserve.

In March 1995, the NPT and Edward Bass signed a 35-year grazing lease. The lease currently involves approximately 10,000 acres, over 91% of the preserve. It provides for annual burns and the use of an early intensive stocking regime on most of the area. The lease was paid in advance and allows for a termination of all or part of the lease through a buy-back provision. The 775-acre bottomland area was purchased from the lease in 2001.

In April 2005 a new partner, The Nature Conservancy, became the primary land owner and bought back the lease and mineral rights on the property. The Nature Conservancy is a private nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the plants, animals, and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. The TNC partners with the National Park Service in natural resource planning and management.

A third partner, the Kansas Park Trust, is dedicated to the mission of enhancing visitor experiences at the preserve by assisting in private fundraising efforts, encouraging Congressional support for implementation of the preserve's management plan, conducting special public events, and operating an on-site bookstore and gift shop.

Together the three partners work toward preserving the natural and cultural resources that make up the tallgrass prairie, while enhancing the educational experiences found at the preserve.

The preserve consists mainly of rolling grasslands in the heart of the Flint Hills region. Spared from the plow by a unique combination of thin and rocky soils, and perpetuated by fire, climate, and grazing, the preserve contains a nationally significant remnant of the once vast, but now endangered, tallgrass prairie ecosystem. Today, only an estimated four percent of this ecosystem remains, with the most extensive portions found in the Flint Hills. The preserve, dominated by tallgrass prairie, is rich in springs, seeps, and intermittent and perennial streams that dot the landscape.

In addition to the prominent buildings, structures, and landscapes related to the ranching history of the property, a number of less prominent archaeological features have been identified on the land; the potential for more is high. The entire preserve was listed as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1997 for its association with the cattlemen's empire of the late 19th century and with the transition from the open range to the enclosed holdings of the large cattle companies in the 1880s.

The preserve is in development. The general management plan was completed in December 2000, and subsequent implementation planning in a number of areas is underway.

Currently, the preserve provides a growing interpretive program to approximately 21,500 annual visitors.

#### Mission of National Park Service at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve

The mission of the National Park Service at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is rooted in and grows from the park's legislated mandate found in the Act of Congress, Public Law 104-333. Our mission statement is a synthesis of this mandated purpose, plus the preserve's primary significance as itemized below.

It is the mission of the National Park Service to manage Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve through a public/private partnership dedicated to preserving and enhancing a nationally significant remnant of the tallgrass prairie ecosystem and the processes that sustain it; preserving and interpreting the cultural resources of the preserve and the heritage associated with the ranch property; and offering opportunities for education, inspiration, and enjoyment through public access to its geological, ecological, scenic, and historical features.

#### Legislative Intent

The law creating Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve mandated the National Park Service to:

- Administer the preserve in accordance with the enabling legislation, cooperative agreements covering the management of the private property, and provisions of law generally applicable to units of the National Park System;
- acquire by donation no more than 180 acres of land within the preserve boundaries;
- prepare a general management plan that provides for maintaining and enhancing the tallgrass prairie, public access and enjoyment, specific interpretive and educational program areas, compliance with a variety of state laws, and honoring existing cattle and oil and gas leases;
- apply, with the private landowner's consent, Federal regulations and expend Federal funds to contract, construct, rehabilitate, or develop essential facilities and manage other resources and visitor use;
- indemnify the private landowner up to certain liability limits.

#### Purpose

The purpose of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is:

- To preserve, protect, and interpret for the public, an example of a tallgrass prairie ecosystem;
- to preserve and protect the cultural resources found within the preserve;
- to interpret for the public, the cultural resources and the social and cultural values represented within the preserve.

#### Significance

The primary significance of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve can be summarized as follows:

- Of the 400,000 square miles (1,036,279 square kilometers) of tallgrass prairie ecosystem that once covered North America, less than four percent remains; Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve represents a portion of this remnant.
- The landscape of the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve contains a unique collection of natural and cultural features that tells the story of human interaction with the prairie environment, from pre-contact times to the present.
- The Spring Hill Ranch is an outstanding representation of the transition from the open range to the enclosed holdings of the large cattle companies of the 1880s.

- The Spring Hill Ranch headquarters area contains outstanding examples of Second Empire and other 19th century architectural styles.
- Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve offers opportunities for extraordinary and inspirational scenic views of the Flint Hills prairie landscape.

#### Key External Factors Affecting Plan's Accomplishment

While park management and staff can plan, manage, and control some things that occur in the park, other things they can only influence, especially things external to park boundaries. Some things, such as natural events, they have no control over whatsoever. In developing Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's Strategic Plan and its long-term goals, it was important to take into consideration key external factors that could negatively or positively affect goal outcomes. A few of the most important or most likely are identified briefly below. This is by no means an exhaustive list but simply those that are most likely to influence outcomes as viewed at the time of writing the plan.

- Due in part to the large amount of private land within the preserve, the philosophy of and partnership with the landowner is critical to the park's success.
- Chase County, which is largely rural and agricultural, could begin to see more development. Local officials have been reluctant to put controls in place.
- The interest in implementing the general management plan and increasing numbers of visitors will place greater demands on limited human, fiscal, natural, and cultural preserve resources. Both public and private sector support, including financial, will be key elements for success.
- The preserve must continually evaluate and apply existing resource information, management techniques, and new technologies to fulfill its mission and accomplish work in the most effective, efficient, and creative manner.

#### Consultation in Plan Preparation

GPRA requires that Congress, OMB, and other interested and affected parties be consulted in the development of strategic plans. Congress and OMB, as well as the Department of the Interior, were extensively consulted in the development of the DOI and NPS servicewide plan. In the development of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's local strategic plan, the following individuals and/or organizations were consulted at various stages of development as indicated.

The park's general management plan was completed in December 2000. During the process, public involvement was extensive. Entities included partners, general public, Tribal governments, congressional delegation, preserve advisory committee, and Federal, state, and local governmental agencies and organizations. This consultation was indirect but highly germane to the development of this strategic plan.

#### Strategic Plan Preparers

The following park staff members were intimately and extensively involved in preparing this strategic plan:

Wendy Lauritzen, Superintendent and park GPRA Coordinator  
 Stephen Miller, Former Superintendent and park GPRA Coordinator  
 Kristen Hase, Chief of Natural Resource Management  
 Heather Brown, Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services  
 Tobin Roop, Facility Manager  
 Brock Davis, Administrative Officer  
 Mary Beth Murawski, Administrative Technician (Information Technology)

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 17, 2007

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* la1A

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* la1A

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Disturbed Acres Restored

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, 50 (12%) of 400 acres of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's lands disturbed by prior human development or agricultural use and targeted by September 30, 2003 for restoration are restored.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

*Unit Measure:*

*Condition (Desired):*

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

Disturbed land restored

Acres

Restored

400

*5-Year Results Plan:*

la1A - 400 acres (4%) of the 10,894 acres of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve lands were historically bottomland prairies. This area has been plowed and farmed to produce crops such as corn, oats, and wheat from the time of early Euroamerican settlement. In October 1995, all of the broken ground was planted to smooth brome grass (*Bromus inermis*) and pastured by cattle to extend the grazing season. The cattle grazing lease was purchased back in 2001 and since has only been hayed annually. In 2001, planning and preparation began to replant all of the previously cultivated ground along Lower Fox Creek to native bottomland prairie. Beginning in 2005, 25 additional acres each year will begin direct treatments. 25 acres will be restored by September 30, 2008.



## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: November 05, 2007

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* la1B

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* la1B

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Invasive Plants acres free of invasive plants

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, 180 acres (45% of 400 acres) of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve lands impacted by invasive (non-native) plants are effectively controlled.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Invasive plant acres

*Unit Measure:*

Acres

*Condition (Desired):*

Maintained

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

400

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

*5-Year Results Plan:*

la1B - 400 acres or (4%) of the 10,894 acres of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve lands contain invasive (non-native) vegetation and have been targeted by September 30, 2003 for control.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 27, 2008

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* la2A

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* la2A

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

T&Especies making progress toward recovery

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, 1 (100% of 1) of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's current federally listed threatened or endangered species is moved from "unknown" status to making progress towards recovery.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Making progress toward recovery

*Unit Measure:*

Each species

*Condition (Desired):*

Making progress toward  
recovery

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

2

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

1

*5-Year Results Plan:*

la2A - Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve has three species listed as federally threatened or endangered. The Bald Eagle and Topeka shiner are current species with "unknown" status. The third species is the historic Eskimo Curlew with "extirpated" status.

To move one of the two current "unknown" status species into a measurable criteria (not-at-risk, at-risk stable, or at- risk increasing) and making progress towards recovery, annual monitoring will be completed. Topeka shiner monitoring is the park's 4th vital sign monitoring priority and began in 2001.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 14, 2008

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* 1a5

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* 1a5

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Historic structures in good condition

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, 47% (14 of 30 structures) of historic structures are in good condition.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Condition

*Unit Measure:*

Each structure

*Condition (Desired):*

Good

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

30

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

12

*5-Year Results Plan:*

1a5 - Identified repairs are made to 13 historic structures. Improvements include roof repairs, the repair and painting of exterior wood surfaces, windows, and doors, the stabilization of the silo foundation and structure, and upgrades to electrical and telephone system.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 24, 2008

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* 1a6

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* 1a6

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Preservation and protection standards met

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, 53% (136 of 258 standards) of NPS preservation and protection standards for park museum collections are met.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Applicable standards

*Unit Measure:*

Each standard

*Condition (Desired):*

Standards meet

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

258

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

113

*5-Year Results Plan:*

1a6 - Procedures and plans are established to maintain and protect items in the museum collection. Improved monitoring and documentation of environmental conditions are performed. Exhibit displays and storage cabinets are purchased to protect museum collection items.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 15, 2008

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* la7

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* la7

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Cultural landscapes in good condition

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, 50% (1 of 2 landscapes) of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve cultural landscapes are in good condition.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Condition

*Unit Measure:*

Each landscape

*Condition (Desired):*

Good

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

2

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

1

*5-Year Results Plan:*

la7 - Contracted repairs are made to barn stone corrals (HS112), ranch house terrace retaining walls (HS105), obelisk on front walkway (HS103) of ranch house, and stone fences around the Lower Fox Creek schoolhouse (HS201). Maintenance and repairs are performed as needed to maintain and improve the conditions of the two cultural landscapes listed on the Cultural Landscape Inventory.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 21, 2008

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* la8

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* la8

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Archeological sites in good condition

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, 60% (9 of 15 sites) of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve archeological sites are in good condition.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Condition

*Unit Measure:*

Each archeological site

*Condition (Desired):*

Good

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

14

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

9

*5-Year Results Plan:*

la8 - Identified maintenance and monitoring of sites (14CS111 and 14CA113) will provide sufficient improvements to change their status from fair to good. Work with Midwest Archaeological Center Archaeologist Bruce Jones to protect all recorded preserve archeological sites and maintain 9 sites in good condition.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 03, 2008

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* Ila1A

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* Ila1A

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Overall visitor satisfaction

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, 89% of visitors to Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve are satisfied with appropriate park facilities, services, and recreational opportunities.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Visitor satisfaction

*Unit Measure:*

Percent

*Condition (Desired):*

Satisfied

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

92

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

*5-Year Results Plan:*

Ila1A - Purchase a new alternative fuel vehicle to transport visitors on prairie bus tours. Site Development Plan Environmental Assessment for future visitor services complex completed. Update existing interior and exterior interpretive waysides and exhibits in the historic ranch headquarters and one-room schoolhouse areas. Expand hiking program into remote areas of the preserve. During the preserve's 10th anniversary celebration, special activities and events will be presented. Continue to provide high quality service, a variety of programs, and assistance to visitors, while presenting a clean and well maintained facility.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 26, 2007

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: Ila2A

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: Ila2A

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Visitor injuries

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

By September 30, 2012, the annual average number of visitor accidents/incidents at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is no greater than 1.

Target  
Year:

2012

Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):

Accidents/incidents

Unit Measure:

Each injury

Condition (Desired):

Reduced

Total # Units in  
Baseline:

1

Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):

5-Year Results Plan:

Ila2A - Inspect and monitor all visitor use areas, including the historic ranch headquarters and one-room schoolhouse areas, interior and exterior of buildings, utility systems, and all grounds, trails, and roads for potential safety hazards. Work to correct and prevent safety hazards. Provide staff training in emergency preparedness procedures for prevention and response to accidents/incidents. The preserve will document and correct all safety hazards, while working to prevent their occurrence. Work includes trail repair to two nature trails, grading and replacement of road base materials on roads and parking lot surfaces, perform annual safety inspections and document hazards, and repair wheelchair ramps at visitor access doors of barn. These measures will aid in preventing visitor accidents caused by safety hazards, thus working toward lowering the annual servicewide accident/incident rate.



## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 26, 2007

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* Ila2B

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* Ila2B

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Visitor fatalities

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, the number of visitor fatalities at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is 0.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Fatalities

*Unit Measure:*

Each fatality

*Condition (Desired):*

Reduced

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

0

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

*5-Year Results Plan:*

Ila2B - Visitor fatalities will have an annual average of zero over this planning period.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 03, 2008

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* IIb1

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* IIb1

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Visitor understanding and appreciation

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, 91% of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve visitors understand the significance of the park.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Visitor understanding

*Unit Measure:*

Percent

*Condition (Desired):*

Understand

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

95

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

*5-Year Results Plan:*

IIb1 - The interpretive division will develop and present a variety of natural and cultural interpretive programs, curriculum-based education programs and activities, tours, and audiovisual programs based on the most current documentation and research available. Staff will continue to develop the park's website to include curriculum-based educational activities and downloadable documents. Update existing and create new interpretive brochures and site bulletins using the new Messaging Project guidelines. Work with Harpers Ferry Center to develop the preserve's unigrid brochure. Complete Long-Range Interpretive Plan in FY05 and begin implementation. Develop Comprehensive Interpretive Plan with completion and approval in FY08.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 26, 2007

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* IVa6A

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* IVa6A

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Employee injuries

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, the number of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve employee injuries and illnesses will be at or below the rolling 5 year average of 1.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Injuries or fatalities

*Unit Measure:*

Each injury or fatality

*Condition (Desired):*

Reduced

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

1

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

*5-Year Results Plan:*

IVa6A - The park employee injury and illness rate will be at or below the rolling 5 year average of 1.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 26, 2007

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* IVa6B

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* IVa6B

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Continuation of Pay hours

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, the number of Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve Continuation of Pay hours is at or below 8 hours.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

COP hours

*Unit Measure:*

Each COP hour

*Condition (Desired):*

Reduced

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

7

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

*5-Year Results Plan:*

IVa6B - The park Continuation of Pay hours is at or below 8.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated:

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* IVb1A

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* IVb1A

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Community partnerships

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve will participate in 5 formal and/or informal partnerships designed to enhance a park's ability to carry out its mission.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Partnerships

*Unit Measure:*

Each partnership

*Condition (Desired):*

Established

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

3

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

*5-Year Results Plan:*

IVb1A - The park will have established at least one partnership designed to enhance the park's ability to carry out its mission.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated: October 03, 2008

*DOI Goal ID Number:*

*NPS Goal ID Number:* IVb2

*Park/ Program Goal ID Number:* IVb2

*NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):*

Visitors served by facilitated programs

*Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):*

By September 30, 2012, attendance at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's facilitated programs will be at 57000.

*Target  
Year:*

2012

*Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):*

Facilitated programs

*Unit Measure:*

Each visitor

*Condition (Desired):*

Attended

*Total # Units in  
Baseline:*

53281

*Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):*

*5-Year Results Plan:*

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is a developing park working toward providing a wide variety of programs to the public. Visitors will have greater opportunities for access into the prairie. Visitor opportunities now include an audio visual orientation program, house and prairie bus tours, special interpretive programs, demonstrations and performing arts, education programs, Junior Ranger programs, backcountry day hiking trails, and special events. Emphasis on access into the preserve and special events and activities will continue to be developed and presented to increase interest and encourage visitors to the preserve. New highway signage and promotion will also increase awareness to the preserve. Park staff will continue to work with partners to promote the preserve and site interpretive programs.

## Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012

Park/ Program Name: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PARKRES

Park/ Program Org Code: 6355

Date Last Updated:

DOI Goal ID Number:

NPS Goal ID Number: OVERHEAD

Park/ Program Goal ID Number: OVERHEAD

NPS Servicewide Goal Description (Mission or Long-term Goal text):

Overhead

Long-term Goal Performance Target (Park/ Program Long-term Goal text; adjust date for end of current strategic planning period):

Longterm goal text not available. Enter the text on the  
Annual Work Plan Results tab for the final year of the  
Strategic Plan.

Target  
Year:

2012

Performance Indicator  
(what is measured):

Unit Measure:

Condition (Desired):

Total # Units in  
Baseline:

Status in Base  
Year (# Meeting  
Condition):

5-Year Results Plan:

**Strategic Plan Report, FY 2008-2012**

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